of civil non-prohibited bore not required by the State Police Forces is required to be sent to the Army Headquarters for their instructions for disposal of such weapons.

(c) There is no proposal to sell/auction the seized/confiscated arms to the people of border and terrorist affected areas.

Establishment of a college of Forestry at Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh

1592. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to establish a College of Forestry at Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether any requests from the State Government have been received in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

Indebtedness of cotton growers in Andhra Pradesh

1593. SHRI MOTURU HANUMANTHA RAO:

SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bankers' Committee headed by the Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India which visited the districts of Prakasam and Guntur in Andhra Pradesh to enquire into the indebtedness of the cotton growers, has since submitted its recommendations to Governments; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Decline in the export of F.C.U. Tobacco

1594. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in the export of F.C.U. tobacco; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what remedial measures have been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reasons for decline in the export of tobacco are the worldwide slowing down of demand and particularly reduced offtake by USSR of our tobacco. The steps being taken to boost the export of tobacco are:—

— Exports of tobacco to China have been permitted ton D.A. terms (Documents against Acceptance) with the time stipulation being 30 days within which collection would be made after discharge of cargo at the post of destination.

—Exports of tobacco to Egypt have been permitted with payment terms involving 50 per cent against presentation of documents on shipment and balance 50 per cent on arrival of goods after inspection in Egypt.

—Exports to Egypt and Algeria have been permitted by extension of one year credit.

—A delegation comprising of the representatives of the Ministry of Commerce/Tobacco Board/STC

visited Egypt, Algeria and Tunisia in July, 1987 for export promotion of tobacco.

—The STC has been asked to contact buyers in Spain, Portugal, FRG and France through their Paris office and explore markets for Indian Tobacco in these countries.

—The possibilities of counter-trade for export of tobacco and extension for longer credit facilities are being explored.

—Further trade delegations are proposed to certain countries for exploring increased export of tobacco.

—Efforts are underway to develop the varieties which produce low-nicotine and tobacco with flavour which have demand in some of the importing countries.

—The Tobacco Board propose to intensify extension activities for improving the productivity and quality of tobacco in order to reduce unit cost of tobacco and thus increasing its price competitiveness in the world markets.

Loans to weaker sections in Madhya Pradesh

1595. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what amount of loans has been advanced to the families of weaker sections in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years by various commercial banks;

(b) what are the schemes (broad categories) under which these loans were sanctioned and what was the average amount advanced to a family belonging to weaker sections, and

(c) whether any steps are being taken by the banks to encourage the members of weaker sections especially SC/ST people to avail of the bank loan facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) All Scheduled Commercial Banks' advanced to the families of weaker sections in Madhya Pradesh during 1984, 1985 and 1986 stood at Rs. 210 crores, Rs. 273 crores and Rs. 330 crores respectively.

(b) Broadly, the important schemes/programmes in operation for upliftment of weaker sections are:—

(i) Integrated [Rural Development Programme];

(ii) Differential Rate of Interest Scheme;

(iii) Self-Employment Programme for Urban Poor;

(iv) Self-Employment to Educated Unemployed Youths.

The average per account of outstanding advances of all Scheduled Commercial Banks to weaker sections in Madhya Pradesh worked out to be Rs. 3,060 as at the end of 1986.

(c) With a view to encourage the members of weaker sections including SC/ST people to avail Bank loan facilities, banks have been advised to take the following steps:—

(i) Making available simplified application forms in regional language for small borrowers and rendering help in filling up forms.

(ii) Speedily disposal of loan applications.

(iii) Liberalised margin and security norms for small loans as also concessionary rates of interest.

1596. [*Transferred to the 12th May, 1988*].